GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1784
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2007
DISTRIBUTION OF UREA
Thakkar Smt. Jayaben B.

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat had drawn the attention of the Union Government regarding various problems being faced in the distribution of Urea under envisaged new system of distribution; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Union Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS(SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE)

(a) & (b): Minister Agriculture, State Government of Gujarat approached the Union Government with the apprehension about delay in reaching the fertilizers to the desired destinations. Following steps to further improve availability of urea in all parts of the country have been taken :

(i) Each State is now required to prepare a monthly supply plan for ensuring availability of fertilizers on a month-wise, company-wise and district-wise format.

(ii) Since the district and not the State is the basis of planning for fertilizers availability, the subsidy is now being paid to fertilizer companies only on reaching fertilizers to each district in conformity with the agreed Supply Plan.

(iii) To ensure that fertilizer companies supplying urea are able to reach it to each district, the urea manufacturers are compensated for freight based on actual rail and road leads.

(iv) The monthly supply plans are being drawn up with minimum pre-positioning of stock for the succeeding month.

(v) The supply of fertilizers by manufacturers/suppliers in accordance with the agreed Supply Plan is being monitored through a Web-based Fertilizer Monitoring System, which is able to track production, imports, dispatch, arrival and sales upto the district-level.

(vi) The State Governments have been advised to (a) strengthen the State institutional agencies which will coordinate with manufactures and importers of fertilizers for streamlining the supplies (b) undertake assessment of demand at the block level and ensure availability upto the block level (c) review the dealer network in their respective States to ensure sufficient availability of dealers upto the block level. They have also been requested to review the railway infrastructure in their States and suggest improvements required to ensure availability of fertilizers in all parts of their States.